



COUNTY OF
LOS ANGELES
ANIMAL CARE
AND CONTROL

February 15, 2006

Agenda Date: February 21, 2006

Marcia Mayeda
Director

Administrative Office
5898 Cherry Ave.
Long Beach, CA 90805
(562) 728-4882
Fax (562) 422-3408
<http://animalcontrol.co.la.ca.us>



Shelter locations

11258 S. Garfield Ave.
Downey, CA 90242
(562) 940-6898

216 W. Victoria St.
Gardena, CA 90248
(310) 523-9566

4275 No. Elton
Baldwin Park, CA 91706
(626) 962-3577

5210 W. Avenue I
Lancaster, CA 93536
(661) 940-4191

31044 N. Charlie Cyn. Rd.
Castaic, CA 91384
(661) 257-3191

29525 Agoura Rd.
Agoura, CA 91301
(818) 991-0071

The Honorable Board of Supervisors
County of Los Angeles
383 Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration
500 West Temple Street
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Dear Supervisors:

**MANDATORY SPAY AND NEUTER PROGRAM FOR RESTRICTED
DOGS; UNALTERED RESTRICTED DOG LICENSE FEE**

(ALL DISTRICTS - 3 VOTES)

**IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT THE BOARD AFTER THE PUBLIC
HEARING:**

Approve the accompanying ordinance amending Title 10 –ANIMALS of
the Los Angeles County Code to:

1. Amend Los Angeles County Code § 10.08 Definitions:
Amendment to "Hobby breeding; add "Pit bull," "Rottweiler" and
"Unaltered."
2. Amend Los Angeles County Code § 10.20. to add Part 4,
Mandatory Spay and Neutering Program for Restricted Dogs as
authorized by amendments to Health & Safety Code §§ 122330
and 122331, effective January 1, 2006;
3. Amend Los Angeles County Code § 10.90.010 VI to establish a
new fee for an unaltered restricted dog license to recover the
costs of enforcement.
4. Introduce, waive reading, and adopt the enclosed Ordinance and
fee at a subsequent meeting.

"To Enrich Lives Through Effective and Caring Service"

PURPOSE/JUSTIFICATION OF RECOMMENDED ACTION

The Department of Animal Care and Control is overwhelmed with certain breeds of dogs which cause a negative and disproportionate impact on euthanasia. In particular, pit bulls and Rottweilers are overcrowding Los Angeles County animal shelters. This overcrowding takes valuable space away from other adoptable dogs which must be euthanized. In most cases, pit bulls and Rottweilers are less likely to be adopted, are more likely to be euthanized, and are less likely to be altered than the other most common breeds.

Housing: Pit bulls and Rottweilers have a disproportionate impact over other dog breeds because they must be housed one dog per run, as these breeds are often aggressive to other dogs and can cause serious harm if a fight occurs. Our normal practice is to house at least two average size dogs per run, and up to four small dogs such as Chihuahuas and terriers per run. Therefore, each pit bull or Rottweiler has DOUBLE the impact of other breeds of dogs on our housing resources.

In fiscal year 2004-2005, this department housed and cared for 39,787 dogs. Of these dogs, the majority (64.3%) fell into six breed types (purebreds and mixes):

	<u>% of Total Incoming</u>	<u>Impact on Housing</u>
a. Shepherds	20.8%	20.8%
b. Pit bulls	16.4%	32.8%
c. Labradors	9.7%	9.7%
d. Chihuahuas	6.4%	6.4%
e. Rottweilers	5.5%	11.0%
f. Terriers	5.5%	5.5%

Adjusted for this impact, pit bull breeds take up about 32.8% of the space in our shelters, and Rottweilers about 11% of the space of our shelters. Taken together, these two breeds account for over 43% of the existing space in our shelters for impounded dogs.

Euthanasia: In addition, suitable adoptive homes are more difficult to find for pit bulls and Rottweilers. These breeds have dominant personalities and require sophisticated owners who are able to properly handle and manage these breeds. The average adopter is looking for a family pet, not a challenging dog.

The euthanasia rate in Los Angeles County shelters for these most common dog breeds are:

a. Pit bulls	77.70%
b. Rottweilers	62.60%
c. Shepherds	51.13%
d. Labradors	37.34%
e. Terriers	26.92%
f. Chihuahuas	26.34%

Restricting the breeding of pit bulls and Rottweilers will decrease the number of dogs which are euthanized in Los Angeles County animal shelters.

Adoption: These two breeds rank towards or at the bottom regarding their chances of leaving Los Angeles County shelters alive. The adoption rate of these most common dog breeds are:

a. Terriers	59.51%
b. Chihuahuas	57.07%
c. Shepherds	36.14%
d. Rottweilers	22.50%
e. Labradors	20.41%
f. Pit bulls	8.10%

Licensing of altered dogs: Aside from Chihuahuas, pit bulls and Rottweilers are less likely to be altered than the other breeds. Our current licensing database shows the following percentages of licensed dogs that are altered, by breed:

a. Labradors	61.96%
b. Shepherds	48.95%
c. Terriers	44.18%
d. Rottweilers	40.23%
e. Pit bulls	30.40%
f. Chihuahuas	16.94%

This reduced incidence of sterilization in pit bulls and Rottweilers contributes to the overpopulation crisis in Los Angeles County animal shelters. Additionally, while Chihuahuas have lower sterilization rates, they are not impacting the shelters as strongly because they are not as common in the shelters as pit bulls and Rottweilers. One reason for this may be that Chihuahuas are more commonly kept as house dogs and have less opportunity for unplanned matings than larger breeds that are more likely to live outside.

IMPLEMENTATION OF STRATEGIC PLAN GOALS

The proposed ordinance supports Countywide Strategic Plan Goal Number 3, Organizational Effectiveness, because it will reduce the overpopulation of certain breeds and create more available cage space to hold adoptable animals, thereby reducing our euthanasia rate. It also supports Goal Number 4, Fiscal Responsibility because the number of dogs entering shelters should decrease, thereby resulting in less cost to the department for capturing and housing these animals. In addition, the costs for the program are fully recovered. Finally, Goal 8, Public Safety, is supported as well, because fewer dogs will be at large and creating public safety concerns.

FISCAL IMPACT/FINANCING

Implementation of this program will require six additional positions to enforce the new ordinance, at a total cost of \$668,077. These six positions include a lieutenant to oversee this program, a sergeant, three animal control officers and a clerical worker. These positions are necessary to provide enforcement, data management and tracking, comply with state reporting requirements, and provide the oversight necessary to comply with due process requirements. Currently, the department has 4,549 unaltered pit bulls and Rottweilers in its licensing database. By dividing the \$668,077 by 4,549 licenses, the cost per license to enforce the new ordinance is estimated to be \$147.00. The department recommends a \$150.00 license fee in order to recover any additional unanticipated costs. The Auditor-Controller has reviewed the calculations used to determine the amount of the new license fee and has determined that the proposed fee is reasonable.

Since this is a new program, these costs estimates are based on the best estimates available. The department will closely monitor and track all revenues and expenses related to this ordinance and make any recommendations for modification to the Board.

FACTS AND PROVISIONS/LEGAL REQUIREMENTS

California Health and Safety Code Sections 122330 and 122331 became effective on January 1, 2006. Prior to this date, local government was not permitted to enact breed-specific ordinances. Under the new legislation, local governments are now allowed to enact breed-specific ordinances pertaining to mandatory spay or neuter programs and breeding requirements.

The purpose of the proposed ordinance is to reduce uncontrolled breeding of certain breeds of dogs and thereby lessen the strain on Los Angeles County animal shelters in capturing and caring for these animals.

While Shepherd and Labrador mixes constitute a large portion of the population, it is much more difficult to distinguish their physical characteristics due to great variances in size, color, and conformation. Pit bulls and Rottweilers, however, breed more true to type and we are able to distinguish these breeds and their mixes in a fair and objective manner.

For that reason we feel the proposed ordinance will have the most success by focusing on these two breeds.

The proposed ordinance establishes a mandatory spay and neuter program for restricted breeds of dogs and a new fee for an unaltered restricted dog license. This will require that all restricted breed dogs be spayed or neutered unless they meet one of the following exemptions:

- The restricted dog is less than four months of age;
- The restricted dog cannot be spayed or neutered without a high likelihood of suffering serious bodily harm or death;
- The owner or custodian has obtained a license for an unaltered restricted dog;
- The determination of the dog's breed is under appeal; or
- The owner or custodian has owned or had custody of the dog for less than thirty days;

An owner or custodian will be issued a license for an unaltered restricted dog if all of the following conditions are met:

- The applicant has submitted the required application and has paid the fee;
- The unaltered restricted dog will be housed and maintained in accordance with all animal care and control laws;
- The owner or custodian has demonstrated the restricted dog is a suitable candidate for an unaltered dog license. Demonstration will require: 1) verification that the dog is registered with the appropriate purebred registry for the breed; 2) the dog has passed age appropriate health and temperament screening tests; and 3) the dog has been implanted with a microchip and that microchip number has been provided to the department.

This ordinance allows owners or custodians to appeal the dog's breed determination, the denial of a license and the revocation of a license.

This ordinance also prohibits the breeding of any restricted dog that is less than two years of age. This restriction comports with generally accepted breeding principles that are customary in the codes of ethics of purebred dog breeder associations.

The sale and transfer of unaltered restricted dogs is also regulated and owners must report the births, sales and transfers of these animals.

A stray restricted dog that is impounded by the department will be spayed or neutered prior to reclaimed by its owner, unless the owner purchases an unaltered restricted dog license or qualifies for an exemption.

Health and Safety Code Section 122331 requires jurisdictions that implement breed specific spaying and neutering programs to measure the effect of those programs by compiling statistical information on dog bites. These statistics are to be submitted quarterly to the State Public Health Veterinarian. Although the Department of Health Services reports general information regarding dog bites, the Department of Animal Care and Control will be able to assume the specific reporting requirements as mandated under this law, if the requested staffing levels are approved.

Pursuant to Government Code Section 66018, a public hearing must be held by the local authority prior to the adoption of a new fee or increase of existing fees. Notice of the public hearing shall be published in accordance with Government Code Section 6062a.

County Counsel has reviewed and approved the ordinance.

IMPACT ON CURRENT SERVICES (OR PRODUCTS)

Approval of these recommendations will enhance the department's ability to protect public safety by reducing stray animals, reduce the euthanasia rate and reduce operating costs because fewer dogs will be impounded.

Respectfully submitted,



MARCIA MAYEDA
Director
Department of Animal Care and Control

Enclosure

MM:yd

c: Chief Administrative Officer
County Counsel
Auditor-Controller
Executive Officer, Board of Supervisors

ANALYSIS

This ordinance amends Title 10 - Animals, of the Los Angeles County Code to establish a mandatory spay and neuter program for certain restricted breeds of dogs. The ordinance complies with recent changes in state law which permit municipalities to enact breed-specific ordinances for the purpose of controlling the breeding of certain dog breeds. The breeds affected by this ordinance are pit bulls and Rottweilers.

The ordinance includes amendments to Chapter 10.08 - Definitions: amends "Hobby breeder," adds definitions for "Pit bull," "Rottweiler" and "Unaltered;" and adds Part 4 - Mandatory Spay and Neuter Program for Restricted Dogs to Chapter 10.20 - Dogs and Cats; and amends Chapter 10.90 - Fees for Services and Activities, Section 10.90.010(VI)(F) to add a fee of \$150 per year for an unaltered restricted dog license.

RAYMOND G. FORTNER, JR.
County Counsel



By

DIANE C. REAGAN
Principal Deputy County Counsel
Health Services Division

DCR:vn

Requested 2/1/06
Revised 2/15/06

ORDINANCE NO. _____

An ordinance amending Title 10 - Animals of the Los Angeles County Code, to establish a mandatory spay and neuter program for certain restricted breeds of dogs and to establish a new fee for an unaltered restricted dog license.

The Board of Supervisors of the County of Los Angeles ordains as follows:

SECTION 1. Section 10.08.155 is hereby amended to read as follows:

10.08.155 Hobby breeder.

"Hobby breeder" is any person, except for a person possessing a valid kennel license, who owns and breeds a ~~female~~ dog, which is not identified as a restricted dog in Section 10.20.350(A), or cat and sells the offspring for pay or for other compensation.

SECTION 2. Section 10.08.201 is hereby added to read as follows:

10.08.201 Pit bull.

"Pit bull" includes any dog that is an American Pit Bull Terrier, American Staffordshire Terrier, Staffordshire Bull Terrier, or any dog that exhibits physical characteristics which predominantly conform to the standards established by the American Kennel Club (AKC), United Kennel Club (UKC), or American Dog Breeders Association (ADBA) for any of the above breeds.

SECTION 3. Section 10.08.208 is hereby added to read as follows:

10.08.208 Rottweiler.

"Rottweiler" includes any dog that exhibits physical characteristics which predominantly conform to the standards established by the American Kennel Club (AKC) or United Kennel Club (UKC) for that breed.

SECTION 4. Section 10.08.225 is hereby added to read as follows:

10.08.225 Unaltered.

"Unaltered" means an animal which has not been spayed or neutered.

SECTION 5. Chapter 10.20, Dogs and Cats, is hereby amended to add Part 4 Mandatory Spay and Neuter Program for Restricted Dogs to read as follows:

Part 4

Mandatory Spay and Neuter Program for Restricted Dogs

Sections:

- 10.20.350 Mandatory spaying, neutering and microchipping of restricted dogs.
- 10.20.355 Unaltered restricted dog license - requirements.
- 10.20.360 Denial or revocation of unaltered restricted dog license-grounds and re-application.
- 10.20.365 Appeal of denial or revocation of unaltered restricted dog license.
- 10.20.370 Transfer, sale and breeding of unaltered restricted dog.

10.20.375 Penalties.

10.20.380 Impoundment of unaltered restricted dog.

10.20.385 Allocation of fees and fines collected.

10.20.350 Mandatory spaying, neutering and microchipping of restricted dogs.

A. The following breeds of dogs are "restricted dogs," and are subject to the mandatory spay, neutering, and microchipping and unaltered restricted dog license requirements of this part:

1. Pit bulls, as defined in Section 10.08.201; and
2. Rottweilers, as defined in Section 10.08.208.

B. No person may own, keep, or harbor a restricted dog in violation of this section. An owner or custodian of an unaltered restricted dog must have the dog spayed or neutered or submit written proof to the department that one of the following exceptions applies:

1. The restricted dog is less than four months of age;
2. The restricted dog cannot be spayed or neutered without a high likelihood of suffering serious bodily harm or death, which has been confirmed in writing by a licensed veterinarian. If applicable, the writing must also state the date by which the dog may be safely spayed or neutered;

3. The owner or custodian has obtained a license for an unaltered restricted dog pursuant to Section 10.20.355;

4. The determination of the dog's breed is under appeal pursuant to Section 10.20.350(D);

5. The owner or custodian has owned or taken custody of the dog within the past thirty days;

C. All restricted dogs over the age of four months must be implanted with an identifying microchip by a private veterinary facility, by the department or by another animal care and control agency. The owner or custodian is required to provide the microchip number to the department.

D. Determination of Breed/Appeal.

1. Determination. The department will make a breed determination upon request, or upon contact with, or impoundment of a dog believed to be an unaltered restricted dog. The determination shall be made by the director's designee in accordance with the department's breed determination checklist.

2. Appeal. The dog owner or custodian may appeal a breed determination by filing a written request for appeal with the department within ten days after notice of the determination is mailed to the owner or custodian. The determination of breed by the department's designee is deemed final if a timely appeal is not received by the department. The hearing on the appeal shall be held within thirty days after the department's receipt of the request for appeal. The department shall mail written notification to the owner or custodian of the date, time, and place of the hearing, at least ten days prior to the hearing date. Failure of the owner or custodian or agent to appear at the hearing will result in forfeiture of the right to a hearing. The hearing shall be

conducted by a hearing officer designated by the director. The hearing will be informal and the rules of evidence will not be strictly observed. The determination of the hearing officer shall be the final administrative decision.

3. Notice of determination following hearing. The department shall mail written notification of the determination to the owner or custodian of the dog within ten days after the hearing.

4. Confirmation of compliance with Section 10.20.350. The owner or custodian of an unaltered restricted dog shall comply with Section 10.20.350 within thirty days after receipt of notice of determination that the unaltered dog is subject to Section 10.20.350, by submitting written documentation confirming compliance with that section. If the dog has been moved to another location before such written confirmation is required, the owner or custodian must provide the department with information as to the dog's whereabouts, including current owner or custodian's name, address, and telephone number.

10.20.355 Unaltered restricted dog license-requirements.

An owner or custodian of an unaltered restricted dog must obtain an annual license for the dog, or otherwise show compliance with Section 10.20.350. The license shall be issued upon a finding by the director's designee that all the following conditions are met:

A. The owner or custodian has submitted the required application and has paid the fee set forth in Section 10.90.010(VI)(F);

B. The unaltered restricted dog will be maintained in accordance with the provisions of Los Angeles County Code Section 10.40.010, and with applicable state animal care and control laws. The department shall inspect the premises where the restricted dog will be kept prior to issuing the license;

C. The department has evaluated the dog and has made a finding that the restricted dog is a suitable candidate for an unaltered restricted dog license. Factors to be considered in the evaluation include, but are not limited to, consideration of the dog's lineage, age, temperament, and health. The restricted dog must meet all of the following standards in order for an unaltered restricted dog license to be issued:

1. The owner or custodian shall provide verification that the unaltered restricted dog is registered with the appropriate registry for the breed, including the American Kennel Club (AKC), United Kennel Club (UKC), or other valid registry, as determined by the department; and

2. The owner or custodian of the restricted dog shall provide written confirmation that the following health screening tests have been conducted at the age recommended by the veterinary profession as to each test: Orthopedic Foundation for Animals ("OFA") or University of Pennsylvania Hip Improvement Program ("PennHIP") certification on hips; OFA certification on heart by a certified cardiologist; and a passing score on either the American Temperament Testing Society's temperament test, the AKC's Canine Good Citizen test, or other temperament test approved by the department.

10.20.360 Denial or revocation of unaltered restricted dog license-grounds and re-application.

A. The department may deny or revoke an unaltered restricted dog license for one or more of the following reasons:

1. The applicant or licensee is not in compliance with all of the requirements of Section 10.20.355;
2. The department has received at least one complaint that the applicant or licensee has allowed a dog to run loose or escape, or has otherwise been found to be neglectful of his or her dog or other animals;
3. The applicant or licensee has been previously cited for a violation of any provision of Title 10 of the Los Angeles County Code;
4. The unaltered restricted dog has been adjudicated by a court or an agency of appropriate jurisdiction, to be a potentially dangerous or vicious dog, or to be a nuisance within the meaning of the Los Angeles County Code or under state law;
5. Any unaltered restricted dog license held by the applicant has been revoked;
6. A female unaltered restricted dog has had more than one litter per year, or five or more litters in her lifetime;
7. The license application is discovered to contain a material misrepresentation of fact.

B. Re-application for unaltered restricted dog license:

1. When an unaltered restricted dog license is denied, the applicant may re-apply for a license upon a showing that the requirements of Section 10.20.355 have been met. The department shall refund one-half of the license fee when an application is denied. The applicant shall pay the full fee upon re-application.

2. When an unaltered restricted dog license is revoked, the owner or custodian of the dog may apply for a new license after a thirty day waiting period upon a showing that the requirements of Section 10.20.355 have been met. No part of an unaltered dog license fee is refundable when a license is revoked.

10.20.365 Appeal of denial or revocation of unaltered restricted dog license.

A. Request for hearing.

1. Notice of intent to deny or revoke. The department shall mail to the owner or custodian a written notice of its intent to deny or revoke the license for an unaltered restricted dog which includes the reason(s) for the denial or revocation. The owner or custodian may request a hearing to appeal the denial or revocation. The request must be made in writing within ten days after the notice of intent to deny or revoke is mailed. Failure to submit a timely written hearing request shall be deemed a waiver of the right to appeal the license denial or revocation.

2. Hearing officer. The hearing shall be conducted by the director's designee.

3. Notice and conduct of hearing. The department shall mail a written notice of the date, time, and place for the hearing not less than ten days before the hearing date. The hearing date shall be no more than thirty days after the department's receipt of the request for a hearing. Failure of the owner or custodian or his or her agent to appear at the hearing will result in forfeiture of the right to a hearing. The hearing will be informal and the rules of evidence will not be strictly observed. The department shall mail a written decision to the owner or custodian within ten days after the hearing. The decision of the hearing officer shall be the final administrative decision.

B. Change in location of dog. If the dog is moved after the department has issued a letter of intent to deny or revoke, but has not yet denied or revoked the license, the owner or custodian must provide the department with information as to the dog's whereabouts, including the current owner or custodian's name, address, and telephone number.

10.20.370 Transfer, sale and breeding of unaltered restricted dog.

A. Offer for sale or transfer of unaltered restricted dog: An owner or custodian residing in or conducting a transaction who offers any unaltered restricted dog for sale, trade, or adoption must include a valid unaltered restricted dog license number with the offer of sale, trade or adoption, or otherwise state and establish compliance with Section 10.20.350. The license number must also be supplied as part of a written agreement for the transaction to the person acquiring the dog.

B. Transfer of unaltered restricted dog: The owner or custodian of an unaltered restricted dog over the age of four months, which does not have the registration papers identified in Section 10.20.355(C)(1), must demonstrate compliance with Section 10.20.350 prior to the transfer, and must notify the department of the name and address of the transferee within ten days after the transfer.

C. Breeding of unrestricted dogs: No person may breed a restricted dog which is less than two years of age.

D. Notification of litter and sale or transfer of puppies: Within thirty days after a litter is born to a restricted female dog, the owner or custodian of the female dog shall advise the department in writing of the number of live born puppies. When a puppy under the age of four months is sold or otherwise transferred to another person, the owner or custodian shall advise the department of the name and address of the new owner or custodian, and the microchip number of the puppy, if applicable, within ten days after the transfer.

10.20.375 Penalties.

The penalties for violations of any provision of this part are as follows:

A. First violation. A first violation shall be an infraction punishable by a fine not to exceed \$250. If the owner or custodian fails to correct the underlying cause of the violation within 30 days after being notified of the violation, it shall be deemed a second violation.

B. Second violation. A violation within a year of a first violation shall be deemed a second violation. A second violation is a misdemeanor punishable by imprisonment in the county jail for a period not to exceed six months or by a fine not to exceed \$1,000, or by both such fine and imprisonment. Each subsequent violation within one year shall be considered an additional misdemeanor.

10.20.380 Impoundment of unaltered restricted dog.

A. When an unaltered restricted dog is impounded, the owner or custodian may reclaim the unaltered restricted dog when one of the following occurs:

1. The dog is spayed or neutered by a department veterinarian at the expense of the owner or custodian. Such expense may include additional fees due to extraordinary care required.

2. The dog is spayed or neutered by another department approved veterinarian. The owner or custodian may arrange for another department approved veterinarian to spay or neuter the dog, and shall pay to the department the cost to deliver the dog to the chosen veterinarian. The cost to deliver the dog shall be based on the department's hourly rate established by the Auditor-Controller, billed in minimum one hour increments. The veterinarian shall complete and return to the department within ten days, a statement confirming that the dog has been spayed or neutered and shall release the dog to the owner or custodian only after the spay or neuter procedure is complete.

3. At the discretion of the director, the restricted dog may be released to the owner or custodian if he or she signs a statement under penalty of perjury, representing that the dog will be spayed or neutered and that he or she will submit a statement within ten days, signed by the veterinarian, confirming that the dog has been spayed or neutered.

4. If the owner or custodian demonstrates compliance with Section 10.20.350.

B. Costs of Impoundment.

1. If the department extends an impoundment because of a breed determination, and a successful appeal ensues, the department shall be responsible for the costs of impoundment from the date of the appeal until the date of the determination that the dog is not a restricted dog.

2. The owner or custodian of the unaltered restricted dog shall be responsible for the costs of impoundment, including daily board costs if it is determined that the owner or custodian is in violation of Section 10.20.350.

3. The costs of impoundment shall be a lien on the dog, and the unaltered restricted dog shall not be returned to its owner or custodian until the costs are paid. If the owner or custodian of an impounded unaltered restricted dog does not pay the lien against the dog in full within fourteen days, the dog shall be deemed abandoned to the department in accordance with Section 10.36.310.

10.20.385 Allocation of fees and fines collected.

All costs and fines collected under this part and the fees collected under Section 10.90.010 (VI)(F) shall be paid to the department for the purpose of defraying the cost of the implementation and enforcement of this Part 4.

SECTION 6. Section 10.90.010 (VI) is hereby amended to read as follows:

10.90.010 Fee schedule.

The fees required to be paid for all services and activities set forth in Title 10 are as follows, except that the director may waive any fees in cases of undue hardship:

. . . .

VI. Individual Animal Licenses.	Fees
---------------------------------	------

Every person owning a dog or cat over the age of four months shall obtain an annual license and tag for each such dog or cat; except, there shall be a one-time-only fee for registration of discharged military dogs, for guide dogs or Seeing Eye dogs, for signal dogs trained to assist the hearing impaired, and for service dogs trained to perform tasks to assist the physically handicapped, upon payment of the following fees:

A. Dog license and tag fees:

Dogs over four months:

- | | |
|------------------------|----------|
| 1. Unspayed/unneutered | \$ 30.00 |
|------------------------|----------|

2.	Spayed/neutered	15.00
3.	Omitted by Ord. 2000-0075.	
4.	Senior citizen -- Spayed/neutered dog	7.50
5.	Delinquency charge for annual license renewal not obtained on or before date of expiration	20.00
6.	Replacement of tag or official license receipt	5.00
7.	Transfer of ownership	5.00
8.	Discharged military dogs (one-time registration fee)	5.00
9.	Guide dogs or Seeing Eye dogs, signal dogs, and service dogs (one-time registration fee)	5.00

B. Cat license fees:

1.	Unspayed/unneutered	10.00
2.	Spayed/neutered	5.00

- | | | |
|----|-----------------------|------|
| 3. | Replacement cat tag | 5.00 |
| 4. | Transfer of ownership | 5.00 |

C. Cat licensing, kennel exception:

Up to five cats may be kept at any residence without a kennel license, provided the cats' owner or custodian licenses each individual animal, has each animal spayed or neutered and keeps all cats primarily indoors.

D. Other animals -- Licenses required:

- | | | |
|----|--------------|--------|
| 1. | Pygmy pigs | 50.00 |
| 2. | Wild animals | 100.00 |

E. Voluntary identification and registration:

Any dog or cat may be registered in the department's Voluntary Identification Program. Such animal shall be assigned an identification number by tattoo, microchip or other available means of identification, at the owner's request, upon the payment of the following fees:

- | | | |
|----|---|-------|
| 1. | Initial identification and registration | 20.00 |
| 2. | Annual renewal | 10.00 |

3.	Transfer of ownership	5.00
<u>F.</u>	<u>Unaltered restricted dog license-annual fee</u>	
	<u>per restricted dog</u>	<u>150.00</u>

.

[Title10-SNRD-MLCC}